

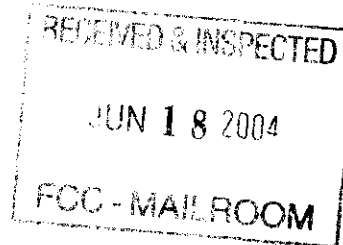
Legal Aid Services of Oregon
Servicios Legales de Oregon para Campesinos
Farmworkers' Office

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June 7, 2004

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW, TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554



Re: Amendment of Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b)
FM Broadcast Stations
MB Docket No. 04-124 (Dallas, OR)
Comments in support of proposed rule making

Dear Federal Communications Commission:

We write this letter to state our support for the reservation for non-commercial use of Channel 252C3 in Dallas, Oregon. We are also in favor of Radio Bilingue's petition to use this station for non-commercial use.

We at the Farmworker Program of Legal Aid Services of Oregon provide free legal services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers throughout the state of Oregon. This includes representation in civil employment matters as well as providing information through various media about their legal rights as farmworkers. We have found that appearances on Spanish-language radio talk shows and pre-recorded announcements during Spanish-language radio programming have been among our most effective means of reaching a large audience of farmworkers with important legal information.

In recent years, however, we have seen an increasing population of indigenous farmworkers coming to Oregon from Mexico and Central America. Harsh economic conditions in these workers' places of origin, coupled with more favorable economic conditions in Oregon (at \$7.05 per hour, Oregon's minimum wage is among the highest in the nation) mean that this trend is likely to increase. Many of these workers' Spanish language skills are limited and some speak only an indigenous language. For the majority of Oregon's indigenous community that language is Mixteco. It has become evident to us that providing information solely in Spanish is not enough to educate sufficiently the entire farmworker population about its legal rights.

This is why it is so important that Radio Bilingue be able to air its weekly program in Mixteco on non-commercial Reserve Channel 252C3 in Dallas, Oregon. Through collaboration with the Oregon Law Center's Indigenous Farmworker Project, we have found that local commercial radio stations are unable or unwilling to use air time for indigenous-language programming. Radio Bilingue's use of Reserve Channel 252C3 would allow us and the Oregon Law Center to educate indigenous farmworkers in their native language, establish their confidence in us as a free legal resource, and make important gains in the fight against widespread and illegal abuses in Oregon's fields.

Please do not hesitate to contact Janice Morgan or Seth Brandt, at (503) 981-5291, if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,
LEGAL AID SERVICES OF OREGON

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janice R. Morgan".

Janice R. Morgan
Attorney at Law
Director, Farmworker Program

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Seth Brandt".

Seth Brandt
Paralegal / Outreach Worker
Farmworker Program

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